

# Preparing for Higher Education

## Chapter 1

**Decisions . . . Decisions . . . Decisions**

**Choices . . . Choices . . . Choices**

**Prepare . . . Prepare . . . Prepare**

**Testing . . . Testing . . . Testing**

**Certificate, Diploma, or Degree**

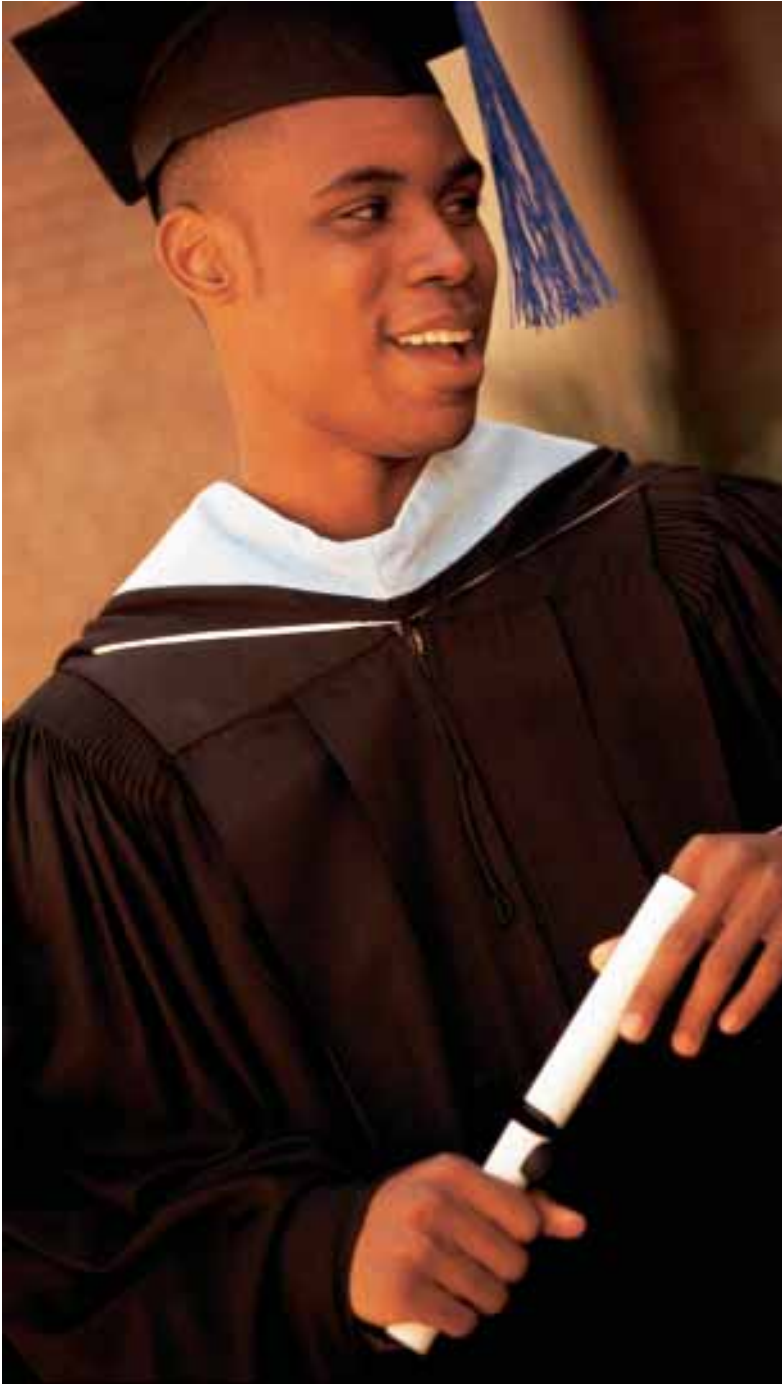
**Schools . . . Schools . . . Schools**

**Admissions . . . Transfers . . . Online Learning**

**Majors . . . Careers . . . Jobs**

**School Evaluation**





What  
happens  
next?

Is college  
the  
answer?

How do I  
pay for it?

Help is on the way!

# Decisions . . . Decisions . . . Decisions



Did you ever think you'd have so many decisions to make?

*Should I go to college? If so, where?*

*Maybe I should try technical school.*

*Is going straight into the workforce the answer?*

*Everyone says that getting a higher education  
will improve my future.*

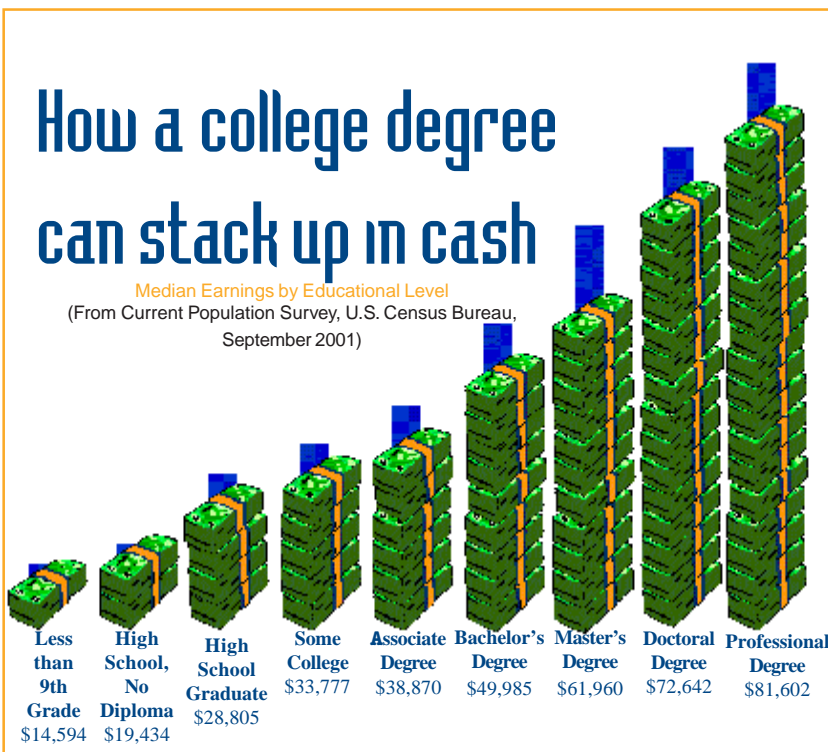
*Tell me how.*

This graph gives the 2000 median earnings of people over age 25 who work year-round at a full-time job, based on their level of education. A median is a middle value, so the number of people earning less than the median is equal to the number of people earning more than the median.



So what do all these facts and figures mean? Simply put . . . more education usually means more money! Specifically, this is how it breaks down:

\$90,000  
\$80,000  
\$70,000  
\$60,000  
\$50,000  
\$40,000  
\$30,000  
\$20,000  
\$10,000



Someone with an associate degree earns 35 percent more than someone with only a high school diploma.



Someone with a bachelor's degree earns 74 percent more than someone with only a high school diploma.



Someone with a master's degree earns 115 percent more than someone with only a high school diploma.

Someone who earns a bachelor's degree will make an average of \$21,180 more each year than someone with just a high school diploma. When you multiply that over a 30-year working lifetime, an additional \$635,400 in income is the result! Impressive, right?

# Choices . . . Choices . . . Choices



## **What if the school I want to attend costs too much?**

Don't jump to conclusions . . . just because a school is expensive doesn't mean you can't afford it. Find out about available financial aid.

## **I'm confused. Who do I ask for help?**

Don't be afraid to ask for help . . . from your parents, your guidance counselor, or librarian . . . to find just the right school for you. We can help too . . . see pages 10–11.

## **I need help deciding on a career.**

Ask your high school counselor if the Occupational Outlook Handbook or the Kentucky Career Information System (KCIS) is available to help you. The handbook is also available online at [www.bls.gov/ocohome.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ocohome.htm).

## **What about grades?**

Make good grades. You're a senior now. . . study and apply yourself, even if you haven't in the past. The better your grades, the more Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) money you'll receive. Read about this great financial help on page 33.

## **How do I know if a career is right for me?**

Find out as much as you can about it from people who earn their living doing what you want to do. Ask . . . where they went to school . . . what they thought of the program at the school . . . would they recommend their school?

## **There are so many choices . . . how do I decide on a school?**

- Visit the schools you're interested in, preferably while classes are in session.
- Don't forget to get their catalogs.
- Most schools have a Web site . . . log on and search.
- Use *Getting In* . . . we have a school evaluation on page 15 that will help you make your choice.
- Get answers. . . from the schools, from the students, and from alumni.







### What do I need to do to be ready for college?

Be prepared . . . make sure you have what you need . . . have you taken the right courses to get into the school you want to attend. Some very general “rules of thumb” are listed here.

- You will need a high school diploma or a General Educational Development (GED) diploma.
- Check out the chart on page 6 for the *minimum* requirement for admission to bachelor’s degree programs at Kentucky’s public universities.
- Community college programs at universities require a high school diploma for admission. Students are not required to take the Precollege Curriculum for admissions purposes.
- The minimum requirement for admission to a Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) degree program is a high

school diploma, a GED certificate, or a waiver of condition of the minimum requirements. Check out the KCTCS Web page for any additional requirements or exemptions.

- If you plan to attend an out-of-state school, you may want to contact the school concerning its requirements for admission.

### What if Kentucky doesn’t have the program of study in which I’m interested?

The Academic Common Market might be your answer. For more information, see page 19.

### What kind of tests do I have to take before I can get into college and how soon should I take them?

If you haven’t taken any college entrance exams, plan to do so as soon as possible. The ACT is required or accepted at all public universities, community colleges, technical colleges, and many private colleges in Kentucky. SAT I and II

are accepted at many public and private colleges and universities in Kentucky. KCTCS colleges accept the ACT, ASSET, and COMPASS. Some private trade schools accept the CPAT and ASSET. For more information about entrance exams, see pages 7–8.

### How can I be sure I’ll be safe on campus?

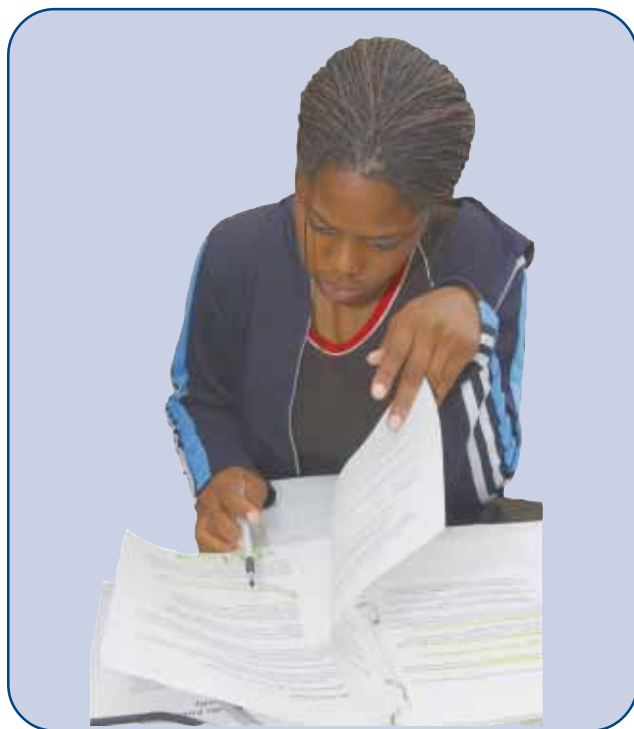
Ask for the campus security report of each school you’re evaluating. This report, which the school must provide if you ask, contains data on campus crime statistics and security policies.

### I’m still in high school . . . should I start applying to colleges and for financial aid?

Yes . . . if you know what school you want to attend, start now. Check with the school you plan to attend to find out the best time to apply for financial aid. Financial aid that depends on the information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) cannot be determined until after the first of the year. (See page 29.)



# Prepare . . . Prepare . . . Prepare



You must meet the minimum diploma requirements to graduate and the precollege curriculum to be admitted by a Kentucky public university.

For more information about the minimum diploma requirements to graduate, write to Patricia Hurt, Kentucky Department of Education, Capital Plaza Tower, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40601 or call (502) 564-2116.

For more information about the precollege curriculum requirements, write to the Council on Postsecondary Education, 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 320, Frankfort, KY 40601 or call (502) 573-1555.

Your board of education may substitute other courses for the requirements of these courses under certain conditions. If you have questions about your board's policy, talk with your guidance counselor.

Subject	Diploma Requirements Source: Kentucky Department of Education	Precollege Curriculum Source: Council on Postsecondary Education
Language Arts	4 credits: English I, II, III, and IV	4 credits: English I, II, III, and IV or AP English
Mathematics	3 credits: Algebra I, geometry, and one elective	3 credits: Algebra I, II, and geometry
Science	3 credits from the following content areas: Life science, physical science, and earth/space science	3 credits: Credits to include life science, physical science, and earth/space science (at least one lab course)
Social Studies	3 credits from the following content areas: U.S. history, economics, government, world geography, and world civilization	3 credits from the following content areas: U.S. history, economics, government, world geography, and world civilization
Health	1/2 credit	1/2 credit
Physical Education	1/2 credit	1/2 credit
History and Appreciation of Visual and Performing Arts	1 credit: History and appreciation of visual and performing arts or another arts course that incorporates such content	1 credit: History and appreciation of visual and performing arts or another arts course that incorporates such content
Foreign Language		2 credits in the same foreign language or demonstrated competency (for students entering college in the fall of 2004 and beyond)
Electives	7 credits	5 credits: (3 rigorous)*

\* Rigorous electives must be at least as challenging as the courses required in the minimum high school graduation requirements. These electives should be in social studies, science, math, English and language arts, arts and humanities, foreign language, and above the introductory level in agriculture, industrial technology, business, marketing, family and consumer sciences, health sciences, and technology education and career pathways. Electives in physical education and health are limited to one-half unit each.

# Testing . . . Testing . . . Testing

Testing . . . the word that puts fear and trembling in the hearts of students. *Do I have to take a test in order to further my education? If I do, should I take the SAT or the ACT? What's the difference between the two tests? How do I prepare?* We'll try to answer some of these questions and hopefully anticipate some others that you might have in the future. Taking the ACT or SAT does not have to be a terrifying experience.

**Do I have to take a test in order to further my education?** Probably. Chapter 3 of this publication contains most of the schools in Kentucky and which tests, if any, they require. It's always wise to check with the school as well, just to make sure.

**Remember . . . your Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) bonus award is based on the highest ACT or SAT score you receive before you graduate.**

## What's the difference between the two tests?

The **ACT Assessment** is required or accepted at all public and private colleges, community colleges, and universities in Kentucky. It contains multiple-choice questions in four sections—English, math, reading, and science reasoning. The scores range from 1 to 36. For more information, visit [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

The **SAT** is accepted at most public and private institutions. The SAT I is made up of seven sections: three verbal, three math, and one “equating” section. The equating section does not count toward your final score . . . however, you won't be able to tell which section it is, so treat all sections equally. A score from 200 to 800 is possible on both the verbal and math sections. For more information about the SAT I or to register online, visit [www.collegeboard.com/sat/html/students/indx001.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/sat/html/students/indx001.html). The SAT II consists of one-hour tests in specific subjects. Check with the school you plan to attend to see if it's required. For more information on this test or to register online, visit [www.collegeboard.com/sat/html/students/prep005.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/sat/html/students/prep005.html).

The ACT and the SAT are the two tests with which you are probably most familiar. However, there are others.

The **English Language Proficiency Test™ (ELPT™)** is a one-hour test of a student's ability to understand spoken and written standard American English. For more information about the ELPT, visit [www.act.org/esl/index.html](http://www.act.org/esl/index.html).

The **ACT ASSET Program** is a series of short placement tests. It's used primarily at community colleges and is on the Kentucky Community and Technical College Systems (KCTCS) approved list of tests. For more information, visit [www.act.org/asset/index.html](http://www.act.org/asset/index.html).

The **ACT Computerized Adaptive Placement Assessment and Support System (COMPASS)** is a series of tests in mathematics, reading, writing skills, and English as a second language which helps pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in particular areas.

COMPASS is on the KCTCS approved list of tests. For more information, visit [www.act.org/compass/index.html](http://www.act.org/compass/index.html).

The **Career Programs Assessment (CPAt)** measures basic skills in language, reading, and arithmetic and it takes about an hour to complete. Trade schools primarily use this test. For more information, visit [www.act.org/cpat/index.html](http://www.act.org/cpat/index.html). (See next page for dates and fees for tests.)

**How do I prepare?** You're a senior . . . hopefully you've been preparing for this since you started high school. However, there are things you can do to help. You can obtain practice tests for both the ACT and SAT at the Web site addresses listed above. Be familiar with the sections and directions before you show up for the test. Get plenty of rest and eat a good breakfast before you test. Remember your No. 2 pencils!



An interesting fact . . . how you deal with answers you don't know should be handled differently with each test. If you don't know the answer on the ACT . . . GUESS! With the ACT, you get credit for only the answers you get right. If you're taking the SAT, DO NOT GUESS! If you don't know an answer, leave it blank. The SAT subtracts the wrong answers from your correct answers to determine your score.

## Is there anything I can do now for college credit?

There are a couple of options available to give you a head start on your college education. The first is the **Advanced Placement (AP)** Examination. You must take an AP course in high school to qualify. You can earn college credit and/or be eligible for advanced placement if grades are satisfactory. There are 34 courses in 19 disciplines. For more information, visit [www.collegeboard.com/ap/students/index.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/students/index.html). The other is the **College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP®)**, which offers 34 tests for many subjects taken during the first two years of college. These scores can be used to award credit or exemption for undergraduate college courses. For more information, visit [www.collegeboard.com/clep](http://www.collegeboard.com/clep).



# National Test Dates<sup>1</sup>

## Entrance/Placement Tests

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration <sup>2</sup>	Registration Fee <sup>3</sup>
<b>ACT</b>	<b>Saturdays:</b> September 27, 2003 <sup>4</sup> October 25, 2003 December 13, 2003 February 7, 2004 <sup>5</sup> April 3, 2004 June 12, 2004	August 22, 2003 September 19, 2003 November 7, 2003 January 2, 2004 February 27, 2004 May 7, 2004	September 5, 2003 October 3, 2003 November 20, 2003 January 16, 2004 March 12, 2004 May 21, 2004	\$25 <sup>1</sup>  Late registration fee: Additional \$15
<b>SAT I and SAT II</b>	<b>Saturdays<sup>6</sup>:</b> October 11, 2003 December 6, 2003 May 1, 2004 June 5, 2004	September 9, 2003 October 31, 2003 March 26, 2004 April 30, 2004	September 13, 2003 November 12, 2003 April 7, 2004 May 12, 2004	Check with your guidance counselor
<b>SAT I, SAT II, and ELPT™</b>	November 1, 2003 January 24, 2004	September 26, 2003 December 22, 2003	October 8, 2003 December 31, 2003	
<b>SAT I only</b>	March 27, 2004	February 20, 2004	March 4, 2004	
<b>ASSET</b>	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
<b>COMPASS</b>	At the college's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
<b>CPA<sup>t</sup></b>	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office

## Tests for College Credit

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration <sup>2</sup>	Registration Fee <sup>3</sup>
<b>AP</b>	<b>Monday-Friday<sup>8</sup>:</b> May 3–7, 2004 May 10–14, 2004  Different subject each day, a.m. and p.m.	Check with your guidance counselor prior to April 1, 2004	Check with your guidance counselor	\$80 with \$22 fee reduction for low-income students
<b>CLEP®</b>	Exams may be administered any time during the year depending on the institution's policy and schedule	Contact the local test center about registration and scheduling procedures.	Not applicable	Check with the local test center.

<sup>1</sup> Subject to change.

<sup>2</sup> Additional fee required.

<sup>3</sup> Subject to change. Check ACT's Web site for current fees ([www.act.org/aap/regist/actfees.html](http://www.act.org/aap/regist/actfees.html)). See your guidance counselor for information about fee waivers for students from low-income families.

<sup>4</sup> Available only in Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington.

<sup>5</sup> Due to the special requirements of legislation in effect in New York, a February 2004 test is not scheduled for that state.

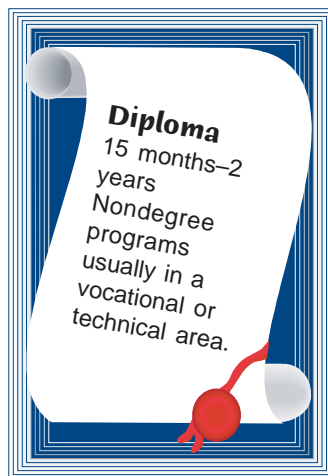
<sup>6</sup> Sunday administration will occur the day after each Saturday administration.

<sup>7</sup> The Language Tests with Listening are offered in November only. ELPT is offered in November and January at some test centers.

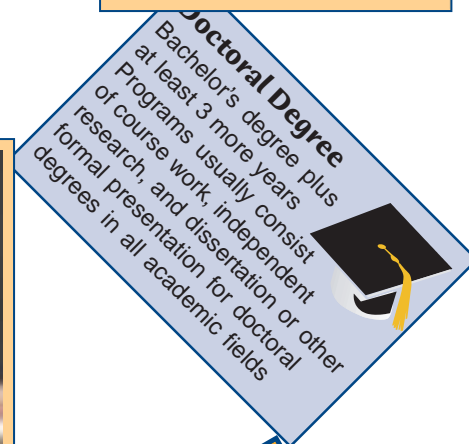
<sup>8</sup> Students wishing to take exams that are scheduled for the same time slot should ask their AP Coordinator to contact AP Services at (609) 771-7300 for information about taking one of the exams on an alternate date.



# Certificate . . . Diploma . . . Degree



If you decide to continue your education after high school, you have lots of choices on how far to go. These range from certificates to professional degrees. Choose the one best suited for you.



# Schools . . . Schools . . . Schools



It's decision time! Your choices are almost limitless, but deciding what's best for you can be a difficult task. Ask yourself some questions. Do I want to be close to home or far away? Do I want the greater opportunities of a large university or the more personal, homelike environment of a smaller college? Which kind of school offers the courses I need to get the degree I want? Am I more financially suited to a state university, private college, or a community/technical school? Those are some of the BIG questions, but other things to consider might be the availability of the kinds of athletics and

extracurricular activities you like. More than likely, there's a school that will fit you perfectly . . . but it might take some research.

On the next page, you'll find a brief description of the different types of postsecondary schools. Once you get an idea of what kind of school you'd like to attend, then start researching which school fits the criteria you've laid out. Start now . . . don't wait until the end of the school year.

## Public Universities



## Private Colleges



## Community Colleges



## Technical Colleges

## Trade Schools



## Public Universities

If you consider variety a plus, you might want to consider a state university. Your choices of career tracks and courses are greatest at one of these schools. All offer a four-year degree, and some offer associate degrees, advanced degrees, and preprofessional and professional curricula.

If you want a great education for less money and it doesn't bother you if you have some large, impersonal classes, this might be just the thing for you.

Your social opportunities are greater as well. From sororities and fraternities to major sporting events, the choices are limitless.

## Private Colleges

If you like a more personal touch with smaller classes and faculty availability, you might consider one of Kentucky's private universities and colleges.

These schools also offer associate and advanced degrees, as well as the four-year degree.

The cost is usually steeper, but don't let that turn you

away. Financial aid and work-study are available.

Because there aren't as many people on campus, you might have opportunities to participate in sports, music groups, and other activities.

## Community Colleges

A good place to start your education may be at one of Kentucky's many two-year community colleges. After obtaining your associate degree here you can transfer to a four-year school to obtain your bachelor's degree or you can go right into the workplace.

One of the big advantages of going this route is the availability of the schools. You can probably find one near your home and continue to live at home, saving the cost of room and board.

## Technical Colleges

If your interest lies in the technical areas, one of Kentucky's many technical colleges might be your choice.

You can obtain a certificate, diploma, or associate degree, taking from 6 to 24 months, depending on your goal.

This is a fast track and leads directly to the job market. You will only be required to take the courses that relate to your field. And often there will be direct ties to the industries who need your skills.

## Trade Schools

Did you say that your interest lies in cosmetology or possibly a fast track to becoming a nurse? This might be the route for you.

Trade schools—also called proprietary schools—are privately owned and licensed institutions offering courses in business, trade, technical, industrial, or related areas.

Some of these schools offer only one area of study (such as cosmetology), whereas others might offer a variety of courses.

## Off-Campus Courses

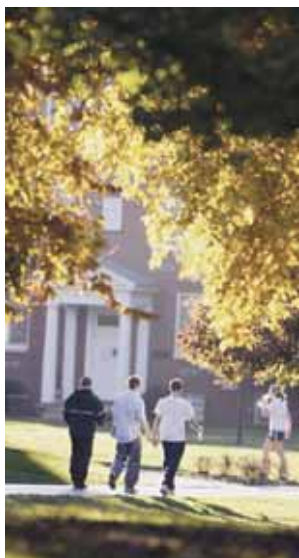
If you want to veer off the beaten track of actually "going to school" there are several other options open to you. Online courses offered through the Kentucky Virtual University (KYVU) and the Southern Regional Electronic Campus (SREC) are two possibilities. For more information on KYVU and SREC, see page 13. KET offers college credit telecourses. For more information call (800) 432-0970 or visit [www.ket.org/telecourses](http://www.ket.org/telecourses). Distance learning courses are offered through correspondence, interactive satellite, and the Internet. Contact the college for information.

If you aren't located near a college or university, some schools offer extended campus centers. These are classes at locations other than the main campus. Contact either your high school counselor or the college admissions office for information.





# Admissions . . . Transfers . . . Online Learning



OK, you've made your decision. You've decided to get a higher education and you know which school you want to attend. What next?

Get an application for admission from the school's admissions office or Web site. Mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and Web site addresses are provided in **Chapter 3**. Complete and return the application. Pay attention to deadlines. Deadlines for each school are also provided in **Chapter 3**.

Make arrangements to have your **high school transcript** sent to the school. Get a housing application if you're going to live on campus and submit it as soon as possible. Find out about **deposits, orientations, and registering for classes**. After you've been accepted, notify the school of your decision and let the other schools you've applied to know you won't attend.

If you have questions or don't understand something, ask your parents, guidance counselor, or the admissions director at the school.



You've heard the old saying that the early bird gets the worm. The admissions process has something similar . . . **Early Decision** and **Early Action**.

In **Early Decision**, you make a commitment to enroll in a school if you are admitted. You have to withdraw all other applications and make a nonrefundable deposit by a date well before May 1. One possible disadvantage to Early Decision is that it may mean you don't have any leverage in negotiating a better financial aid package from the school you choose.

With **Early Action**, you apply to your preferred school and receive a decision before the normal response date. You don't have to enroll at the institution or make a deposit before May 1.

For more information about **Early Decision** and **Early Action**, including deadline and notification dates, contact the admissions office of the school you are interested in attending; write to the National Association for College Admission Counseling, 1631 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-2818; call (800) 822-6285 or (703) 836-2222; or visit the organization's Web site at [www.nacac.com/index.html](http://www.nacac.com/index.html).

Remember when we discussed testing (**see page 7**)? Now's the time to apply this information. See **Chapter 3** for the school you're planning to attend and see what tests are required and the deadlines for submitting the results. Be sure to confirm this information with the school. If you haven't taken the required tests, check the chart on **page 8** to find out test dates, registration deadlines, and fees . . . and do it NOW! If you've taken the required tests, check with the school to make sure it has your results. It's up to you to make sure you've taken the correct tests and that the results have been reported.





Let's complicate the process a little bit. If you're planning on starting your college study at one public school and transferring to another, you should use a **transfer framework** to plan your college program. Confused? Maybe we can make it a little clearer. A transfer framework is a list of courses that are part of a particular major such as biology, English, or accounting. You need to decide on a major because each transfer framework is designed for a specific major. Be sure you take the courses required for this major in your freshman and sophomore year.



Guidelines adopted by the Council on Postsecondary Education will assist you in planning courses that will transfer as a "block." Frameworks are available at every public community college and university in Kentucky, and more information about them can be found at [www.cpe.state.ky.us/going2/going2\\_transfer\\_planning.asp](http://www.cpe.state.ky.us/going2/going2_transfer_planning.asp).

You may also want to consult college catalogs and your school advisor or counselor to learn more about what is required for the major you are planning to pursue. For more information about frameworks, contact **Deborah Jackson, Council on Postsecondary Education, 1024 Capital Center Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601; call (502) 573-1555; or e-mail [deborah.jackson@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:deborah.jackson@mail.state.ky.us)**.



What about online learning? You can earn certificates and associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees online through the **Kentucky Virtual University (KYVU)**, the state's official virtual campus. The courses and programs are offered by schools in Kentucky and other states. Once enrolled, you access your courses by logging on to [www.kyvuu.org](http://www.kyvuu.org),

where you complete assignments and interact with instructors and other students at your convenience. If you register for courses through KYVU, you will be billed and will make payments to the school that offers those courses.

**For more information about KYVU and an up-to-date list of programs: contact the Call Center toll-free at (877) 740-4357 or visit [www.kyvuu.org](http://www.kyvuu.org).**

You will receive your certificate or degree from the school that offers the program you complete. KYVU offers online registration; technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; a call center with evening and Sunday hours.

**The Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL)**, an online library, is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and offers full-text online periodicals and electronic databases. If you have a library card from a Kentucky library, you can access KYVL's databases. For more information about KYVL, visit [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org).

If the program you're looking for isn't available from KYVU, it may be offered through the **Southern Regional Electronic Campus**.

The Electronic Campus is a service of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), of which Kentucky is a member. Electronic Campus programs and courses provide access to Galileo, an online library, through an arrangement with the Georgia Board of Regents.



**For more information about the *Electronic Campus* and an up-to-date list of programs, visit [www.electroniccampus.org](http://www.electroniccampus.org).**

**For more information about the Southern Regional Education Board, visit: [www.sreb.org](http://www.sreb.org).**

# Majors . . . Careers . . . Jobs

Some degrees can be very confusing. You might ask yourself . . . *If I get a degree in geography, what exactly do I do with it in the “real world.”* How does this degree translate to a career? Here is a list of some practical jobs in a major you might choose.

## Accounting

- ☐ Accountant
- ☐ Actuary
- ☐ Financial Aid Director
- ☐ Payroll Manager
- ☐ Systems Analyst
- ☐ Tax Accountant
- ☐ Underwriter

## Anthropology

- ☐ Anthropologist
- ☐ Archaeologist
- ☐ Biographer
- ☐ College Professor
- ☐ Forensic Anthropologist
- ☐ Paleontologist
- ☐ Tour Guide
- ☐ Urban Planner

## Art and Commercial Art

- ☐ Animator
- ☐ Art Instructor
- ☐ Billboard Artist
- ☐ CD/Record Cover Designer
- ☐ Children's Book Illustrator
- ☐ Comic Strip Artist
- ☐ Greeting Card Artist
- ☐ Photographer

## Child and Family Studies

- ☐ Addiction Counselor
- ☐ Camp Director
- ☐ Counseling Therapist
- ☐ Marriage Counselor
- ☐ Social Welfare Worker

## Computer Science

- ☐ Artificial Intelligence Specialist
- ☐ Computer Engineer
- ☐ Computer Programmer

- ☐ Database Administrator
- ☐ Microbiologist
- ☐ Technical Writer

## Economics

- ☐ Auditor
- ☐ Economist
- ☐ FBI/CIA Agent
- ☐ Hospital/HMO Administrator
- ☐ Personnel Manager
- ☐ Stockbroker
- ☐ Urban Planner

## English/Creative Writing

- ☐ Abstract Writer
- ☐ Copy Editor
- ☐ Editor
- ☐ Grant Writer
- ☐ Journalist
- ☐ Press Secretary
- ☐ Proofreader
- ☐ Screen/Television Script Writer

## Geography

- ☐ Cartographer
- ☐ Computer Programmer
- ☐ Environmental Impact Analyst
- ☐ Map Curator
- ☐ Park Ranger
- ☐ Travel Agent

## Mathematics

- ☐ Air Traffic Control Specialist
- ☐ Cryptographer
- ☐ Engineering Analyst
- ☐ Information Scientist
- ☐ Statistician
- ☐ Treasury Management Specialist

## Philosophy

- ☐ Advertising/Copywriter
- ☐ Congressional Staff Member
- ☐ Consumer Advocate
- ☐ Human Resource Manager
- ☐ Peace Corps Worker
- ☐ Public Relations Specialist

## Recreation

- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Aerobics Instructor
- ☐ Camp Director
- ☐ Cruise Recreation Director
- ☐ Resort manager
- ☐ Spa Director

## Social Work

- ☐ Case Manager
- ☐ Child Welfare Worker
- ☐ Consumer Advocate
- ☐ Drug Rehabilitation Counselor
- ☐ Hospice Coordinator
- ☐ Mental Health Worker
- ☐ Social Service Director

## Sociology

- ☐ Clinical Social Worker
- ☐ Counselor
- ☐ Criminologist
- ☐ Gerontologist
- ☐ Occupational Therapist
- ☐ Police Officer
- ☐ Psychotherapist

## Speech and Public Communication

- ☐ Career Counselor
- ☐ Fund Raiser

- ☐ Lobbyist
- ☐ Nursing Home Social Worker
- ☐ Psychiatric Social Worker

## Theatre/Drama

- ☐ Actor/Actress
- ☐ Campaign Director
- ☐ Costume Designer
- ☐ Director
- ☐ Graphic Designer
- ☐ Lighting Designer
- ☐ Set Designer
- ☐ Stage Manager
- ☐ Theatre Educator
- ☐ Wedding Planner



# School Evaluation

			<b>Instructions:</b> If you're considering more than three schools, photocopy this page before proceeding. Select the schools for evaluation and write their names on the slanted lines. Answer the questions for each school. (If the answer is "yes," make a "✓" in the column. If the answer is "no," make an "✗" in the column.) What are your findings?
			Does the school offer the educational program you want?
			If you're admitted into the school, are you also admitted into the educational program you want?
			Is the school accredited by an agency accepted by the U.S. Department of Education (e.g., Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Council on Occupational Education, Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology, National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences, American Association of Bible Colleges)?
			Is the school licensed or approved by the appropriate state government agency (e.g., Council on Postsecondary Education, State Board for Proprietary Education, State Board of Hairdressers and Cosmetologists, State Board of Barbering, Kentucky Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors)?
			Is the school approved for federal and state financial aid programs?
			Does the school have the resources to provide you the education you need to be successful in the work force? Look for up-to-date training devices, developmental course work and/or tutorial assistance, general education courses (e.g., English and math), educational qualifications of the faculty, and library holdings and resources related to your field of study.
			Will completion of the educational program qualify you for a job? An exam and/or apprenticeship may also be required. If a licensing examination is required for employment in your career field (e.g., nursing, cosmetology, or law), do a high percentage of the school's graduates pass the exam?
			Does the school have a job placement program? Is it free? Are a high percentage of graduates placed in jobs? Recent graduates and potential employers can help you answer these questions. A good school will give you a list of contacts.
			Does the typical starting salary for a new graduate of the school's educational program compare favorably with that of graduates from the same educational program at other schools? Does it meet with your expectation? If the school provides such data, ask to see detailed statistics substantiating the school's claim.
			Does the enrollment contract (if required) clearly indicate the complete cost of your course of study? Are all necessities (books, room and board, transportation, tools, uniforms, etc.) included in the cost? Schools must make printed cost-of-education information readily available to prospective students upon request.
			Does the enrollment contract contain language to protect you if the school closes or discontinues your program? Call the Better Business Bureau in the area to find out if the school has a problem past.
			Does the school have a printed refund policy? Good schools have a reasonable refund arrangement for students who withdraw from school.
			Does the school have a low withdrawal rate? A high rate may be a warning sign.
			Will credits earned at one school be acceptable for transfer to another? If you plan to enter one postsecondary institution but transfer to another institution later, will your credits transfer?
			Does the school have a low student loan default rate? Call the U.S. Department of Education at (800) 433-3243 to check a school's default rate. A high default rate may be a warning sign.